



Reduced Risk for Pediatric Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy Patients Receiving Post-Operative Codeine

Background

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) posted a safety announcement in August 2012 regarding the use of codeine following pediatric tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy procedures. NMCPHC's Health Analysis Department (HA) analyzed prescription rates across beneficiaries of all services to determine the prevalence of this potentially harmful clinical practice. Despite the FDA alert, data indicated patients were receiving codeine post operatively. HA disseminated communication materials to relevant specialty leaders to raise awareness across the Military Health System (MHS).

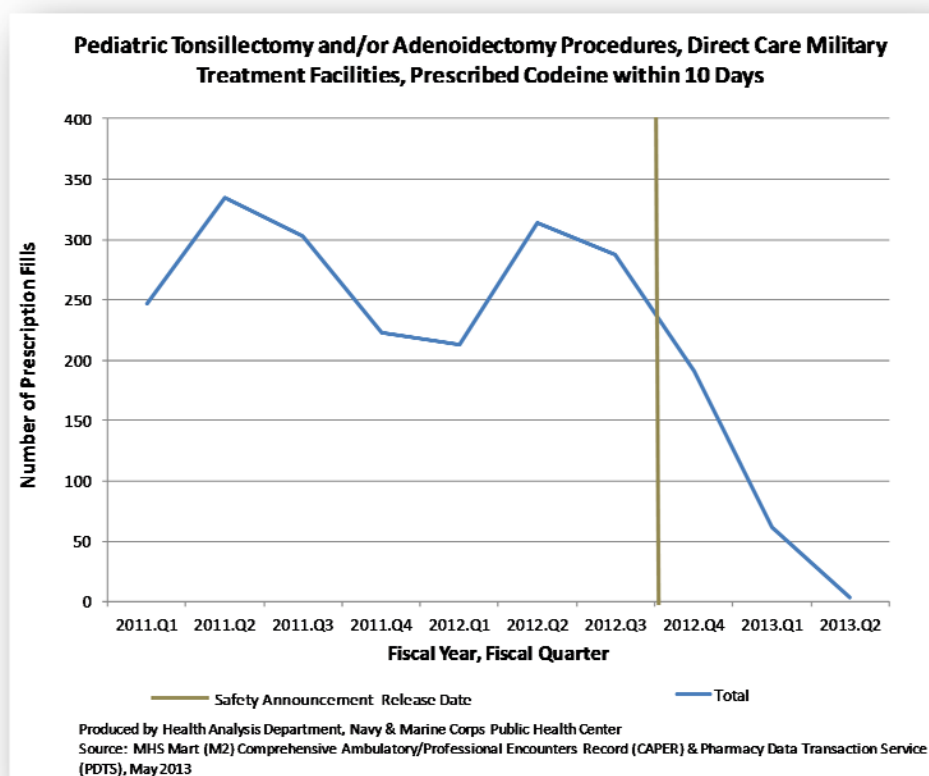
Performance Optimization

HA provided outreach support for the FDA's safety announcement on pediatric deaths following the administration of codeine after tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy. HA accessed MHS data to develop an innovative risk communications factsheet targeting MHS specialty leaders in pediatrics, pharmacy, ENT, and family medicine, with the intention of raising awareness across the DoD. HA's outreach resulted in a reduction in codeine prescriptions among tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy patients treated in Military Treatment Facilities. HA has similar capability to support other quality improvement activities to improve patient outcomes and reduce costs.

HA provides expertise and leadership to improve the value of Navy health care and operational force readiness through clinical health analysis, epidemiologic, and evidence-based methods. The department encourages health care professionals to contact them to suggest additional areas for quality improvement efforts.

Resources

- NMCPHC: <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/>
- Health Analysis Department: <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-analysis/>



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